## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, UR

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF NEW KULAKOV BOOK FURTHER BOOSTS HIS

IMAGE

REF: (A) MOSCOW 2055 (B) MOSCOW 2611 (C) MOSCOW 1789 (D) 77 MOSCOW 14370

- 1. SUMMARY. PRAVDA FEB 28 IN UNSIGNED ARTICLE GIVES LENGTHY AND POSITIVE TREATMENT TO NEWLY PUBLISHED COLLECTION OF KULAKOV'S SPEECHES AND ARTICLES. KULAKOV NOW JOINS THE "GREAT" IN POLITBURO (BREZHNEV, KIRILENKO, KOSYGIN AND SUSLOV) WHO HAVE HAD SUCH A WORK PUBLISHED. END SUMMARY.
- 2. FEB 28 PRAVDA ARTICLE ON KULAKOV COLLECTION IS CAST IN MOST GENEROUS TERMS. ALTHOUGH EXCERPTS DEAL PRIMARCONFIDENTIAL

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ILY WITH AGRICULTURAL POLICY, THE FINAL PARAGRAPH MAKES POINT THAT KULAKOV'S THOUGHTS HAVE BROAD APPLICABILITY TO BUILDING OF COMMUNISM ALONG MARXIST-LENINIST LINES.

3. SUBSTANCE OF ARTICLE AND QUOTES FROM BOOK ARE UNRE-VEALING, BUT IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE SIMILARITY BETWEEN CONCLUSION OF ARTICLE AND PORTION OF KULAKOV THANK-YOU SPEECH AT HIS FEB 9 SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY AWARD CEREMONY (MOSCOW 2055) IN WHICH HE FELT CONSTRAINED TO EXPLAIN THE SCOPE OF HIS PARTY EXPERIENCE WHICH EXTENDS BEYOND ACHIEVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE EMPHASIZED IN BREZHNEV'S CONGRATULATORY SPEECH.

- 4. HALF-PAGE, UNSIGNED ARTICLE ON KULAKOV "COLLECTION" PROVIDES INTERESTING CONTRAST WITH MUCH SHORTER REVIEW OF SHCHERBITSKIY BOOK IN OCTOBER 27 PRAVDA (ASSUME DEPT HAS TEXT).
- -- IN FIRST PLACE, SHCHERBITSKIY BOOK IS NOT A COLLECTION OF WORKS, RATHER IS TOPICAL AND ORIGINAL, AND THEREFORE LESS PRESTIGIOUS A PUBLICATION.
- -- SHCHERBITSKIY REVIEW WAS SIGNED, LESSENING ITS AUTHORITY.
- -- COMMENTS ON SHCHERBITSKIY BOOK WERE SPECIFIC AND HELD TO ITEMS IN TEXT WHEREAS PRAISE FOR KULAKOV EXTENDED TO GENERALIZATIONS ABOUT THE SCOPE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS WORK.
- 5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SHCHERBITSKIY BOOK DID NOT COME OUT ON OCCASION OF HIS SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY (IT MISSED BY FOUR MONTHS), COMPARISON OF PRESS TREATMENT OF IT AND KULAKOV CONFIDENTIAL

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"COLLECTION" IS STILL OF INTEREST IN LIGHT OF RISING STAR TREATMENT ALTERNATELY ACCORDED TWO OVER LAST SEVERAL MONTHS (REFS A, B, C, D). PUBLICATION OF REVIEW REINFORCES OUR IMPRESSION THAT KULAKOV, FOR MOMENT AT LEAST, IS FIRST AMONG "YOUNGER" POLITBURO MEMBERS. END COMMENT. MATLOCK

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